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SUBJECT: ICRC PRESIDENT LAUDS EXECUTIVE ORDERS ON DETENTION

ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger called Charge January 23 and told him that he had just given an interview to the BBC in which the Executive Orders signed January 22 by President Obama on detention, interrogation and Guantanamo had been raised. Kellenberger said he had told the BBC that the decisions were good news and that he particularly appreciated the President's commitment to fight terrorism with determination and still respect international humanitarian law, human rights and human dignity. Kellenberger stated that he was convinced of the central importance of this message for many countries in the world. "To say I was pleased is too weak a word," he concluded.

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